III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims

1.(Currently Amended) A system for processing a color image in a printing machine having color rendering characteristics comprising:

an image processor for generating original color image data from an original item to be printed for the purpose of forming an electrostatic latent image on a photoconductive belt of said printing machine;

said system further comprising a customization manager comprising:

a customization user interface adapted to allow a user to enter data ~~relative to~~for generating customized tone reproduction curves;

a customization processor constructed to receive the data entered by said user at said customization interface and generate at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves;

a customization memory for storing said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves for future use;

wherein said image processor and said customization processor ~~processors~~ are connected to combine said at least one set of customized tone

reproduction curves with said original color image data to generate customized original color image data; and

a color maintenance processor including a memory for storing at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves and wherein said color maintenance processor combines said customized original color image data with said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves to generate calibrated and customized original color image data.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A system for processing a color image in a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, as described in claim 1 wherein the set of customized tone reproduction curves are stored in said customization memory supported by named reference to create a library of customized tone reproduction curves which is accessible for flexible use.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a color image in a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, as described in claim 1 wherein said customized original color image data are stored prior to calibration for future use and calibration.

5. (Original) A system for processing a color image in a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, as described in claim 1 further comprising a general user interface for operating said printing machine, wherein said customization user interface is presented as part of said general user interface.

6. (Original) A system for processing a color image in a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, as described in claim 1 further comprising a computer network in which said customization user interface is adapted for use on a personal computer which is connected to said computer network.

7. (Currently Amended) A customization system for generating independent tone reproduction curves for use in an image processing system of a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, said image processing system having a color maintenance processor for combining at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves with original color image data, and adjusting said color image data to compensate for said color rendering characteristics; said customization system comprising:

a customization user interface adapted to allow a user to enter data ~~relative to~~ for generating customized tone reproduction curves;

a customization processor constructed to receive the data entered by said user at said customization interface and generate at least one set of customized tone reproduction curve~~s~~;

a customization memory for storing said said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves for future use; and

wherein said color maintenance processor and said customization processor ~~processors~~ are connected to combine said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves

with said original color image data to generate customized original color image data, and further wherein said color maintenance processor is adapted to combine said customized original color image data with said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves to generate calibrated and customized original color image data.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A customization system for generating independent tone reproduction curves for use in an image processing system of a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, according to claim 7, wherein said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves is stored in said customization memory supported by named reference to create a library of customized tone reproduction curves which are accessible for flexible use.

10. (Currently Amended) A customization system for generating independent tone reproduction curves for use in an image processing system of a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, according to claim 7, wherein said customized original color image data are stored prior to calibration for future use and calibration.

11. (Previously Presented) A customization system for generating independent tone reproduction curves for use in an image processing system of a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, according to claim 7, further comprising a general user interface for operating said printing machine, wherein said customization user interface is presented as part of said general user interface.

12. (Previously Presented) A customization system for generating independent tone reproduction curves for use in an image processing system of a printing machine having color rendering characteristics, according to claim 7, further comprising a computer network connected with said printing machine in which said customization user interface is adapted for use on a personal computer which is connected to said computer network.

13. (Currently Amended) In an image processing system of a printing machine, ~~having color rendering characteristics, said image processing system having a color maintenance processor for combining calibration tone reproduction curves with color image data, and adjusting said image data to compensate for said color rendering characteristics,~~ a customization method for generating customized tone reproduction curves for use in said image processing system comprising the steps of:

generating data representing an original color image from an original item to be printed;

entering data ~~relative to~~ for generating customized tone reproduction curves;

processing said entered data and generating at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves;

storing said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves for future retrieval and use; and

processing said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves by combining said at least one set of

customized curves with said ~~said~~ generated original color image data to generate customized original color image data;

generating at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves;

storing said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves; and

calibrating said customized original color image data by combining said customized color image data with said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves to generate calibrated customized original color image data.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, the method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of storing the customized tone reproduction curves in said customization memory supported by named reference to create a library of customized tone reproduction curves which is accessible for flexible use.

16. (Currently Amended) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, the method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of storing said customized original color image data, prior to calibration, for future use and calibration.

17. (Previously Presented) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, the

method according to claim 13, wherein the step of entering customized image data is accomplished at a customization user interface that is presented as part of general user interface for operating said printing machine.

18. (Previously Presented) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, in the method according to claim 13, wherein the step of entering customized image data is accomplished at a personal computer which is connected to a computer network which includes said printing machine.

19. (Currently Amended) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, in the method of claim 13, wherein said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves is combined with said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves.

20. (Currently Amended) In an image processing system of a printing machine, having color rendering characteristics, the method according to claim 13, wherein said at least one set of calibration tone reproduction curves is combined with said original image color data and the resulting calibrated original color image data is combined with said at least one set of customized tone reproduction curves to obtain customized, and calibrated original color image data.